

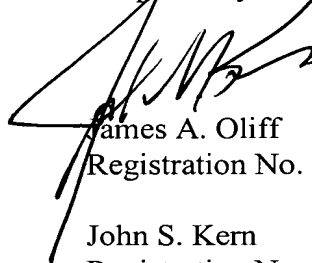
REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Abstract, specification and claims 1-9 and 11-21 are amended. No new matter is added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

John S. Kern
Registration No. 42,719

JAO:JSK/kap

Attachment:

Substitute specification
Substitute Abstract
Marked-up copy of application

Date: December 2, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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